**Can the Roman Republic be saved?**

Nomen:

Spatium:

Hodie est:

**Notes before the simulation**

**Roles in the Late Republic:**

1. Tax farmer:
2. Senators:
3. Generals:
4. Julius Caesar:
5. Populares:

My role is:

I care about:

**Problem 1**

**Rome needs tax money to run the Republic.**

The government needs to pay for the military, build roads, sewers, aqueducts, arenas, and pay for the welfare program in Rome. To get this tax money, Rome uses tax “farmers”. Tax farmers are Romans who pay a flat fee to the Roman Republic for the privilege of collecting taxes from a territory. To make a profit, tax farmers then charge a tax against every citizen in their territory. Tax collectors expect to make a profit, this is understood. However, under this system, there are many abuses, as the government cannot control how each tax farmer runs their individual business.

***Question:*** How can we raise and collect taxes to save the Republic?

**Problem 2**

**Elected officials are using their positions to get rich.**

Under the Republic, elected officials use their positions to get rich. To get elected, some people are buying votes. Under this system, many people are elected who are poor governors. Many government officials are corrupt.

***Question:*** How can we ensure good government for Rome?

**Problem 3**

**Rome does not have a police force.**

Under the Republic, Rome does not have a police force. Wealthy Romans hire guards, and even build private armies. During elections, these private armies often fight. These fights and battles are creating havoc on the streets and unsafe conditions for innocent bystanders. At all times, Rome's streets are not safe for citizens after dark.

***Question:*** How can we solve this problem?

**Problem 4**

**Rome is in the middle of a civil war.**

In Republic Roman, generals and politicians have their own private armies. In order to gain more power for themselves several of these leaders attack one another. Romans loyal to one general or politician would fight against fellow citizens loyal to another general or politician. Because they are attacking each other Rome is becoming more and more unstable.

***Question:***How can we keep these wealthy citizens from attacking each other?

**Problem 5**

**Class warfare.**

Patricians are increasingly wealthy while the lower classes remain poor. Generals like Tiberius and Gaius Gracchus have fought to try and improve the lives of the poor by limiting the wealth of the rich. The patricians had both men assassinated for trying to limit their wealth.

***Question:***How can we keep the upper classes and lower classes from fighting?

Nomen:

Spatium:

**Questions for Reflection**

1. What was your role? What was positive about your role? What was negative about your role?
2. How did you group attempt to solve the problems? Why did you try to solve the problems in that way?
3. How did other groups attempt to solve the problems? How did it differ from your group?
4. Do you think the Roman Republic could be saved? Why or why not?

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